

## MAY 13 - MOVIE ROAD IN THE ALABAMA HILLS

Jen awoke early this morning and took this great picture of the moon over the Sierra Nevadas.



Our plan for this morning is to drive along Movie Road on the way into Lone Pine. Hundreds of films have used the Alabama Hills as their backdrop - should be fun - let's go!

Here's the turnoff.



After a couple of hundred feet of tarmac, we were looking at a gravel surface.



Oh well, we can't come this far and not do it! These rocks formations are really interesting.





The map we had showed mile markers and information about various films shot in various locations in these hills. Do you think we saw anything along the way? Nope! There was absolutely nothing as we twisted and turned, drove up and down dale for about 10 miles on a dusty, washboard gravel road. We were very happy to see the valley and eventually Hwy 395 in the distance.



We headed down the highway, through Lone Pine to the Tourist Info Centre on the other side of town. We wanted to get some information about Death Valley - tomorrow's destination. In the courtyard at the front of the building were some flowering trees. The burgundy-flowered tree is a Desert Willow - very pretty. I don't know what the other one is called.

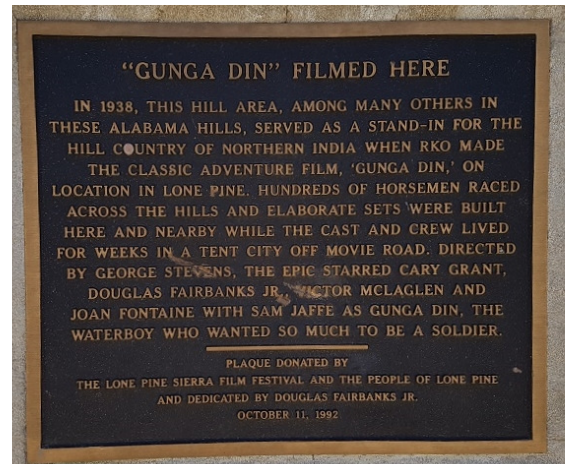


We drove back into town and enjoyed coffee at the Lone Star Bistro.





After coffee, we stopped at a roadside marker we had driven past yesterday. It's on the road to the campground.



After seeing this monument, we wondered why there weren't similar monuments on Movie Road. Perhaps there are, but we didn't see anything as I mentioned earlier.

Back at camp, I noticed Tuttle Creek was a little more active than it was yesterday.



We have seen these purple flowers scattered throughout the desert. Today on my walk, I saw that they must be of the lupin family - a desert variety no doubt.

After tea this afternoon we walked up the campground road to the top and took this picture of Owens Lake. There is quite a history around this lake. More about that in tomorrow's entry.



See you in Death Valley!